

What is claimed is:

1. A monitoring system of a specific area, comprising:

monitor terminals, which have monitoring means having at least an image pickup unit, communication means for transmitting monitor information of the monitor means to an external monitor, and moving means for moving within the area to be monitored, which is made up of a moving cart moving in the moving path that is installed in said area to be monitored; and

a monitor, which is data-communicably connected to said monitor terminals and has display means that receives the monitor information transmitted from the monitor terminal and is capable of displaying at least a monitor image by said image pickup unit, and operating means for operating the movement of said monitor terminals, in which the monitoring system performs remote monitoring of the area to be monitored where said monitor terminals are installed, by said monitor, wherein

said monitoring system includes monitor image switching means that switches monitor images from a plurality of said monitor terminals and transmits the images to the monitor, in which

said monitor terminals have proximity detecting means for detecting another monitor terminal existing in close proximity on a same moving path or an adjacent moving path by moving, the monitor terminal transmits the detection information of another monitor terminal to said monitor image switching means when the proximity detecting means detects another monitor terminal, and

said monitor image switching means switches an image to be transmitted to said monitor to the monitor image of another monitor terminal existing in close proximity based on the received detection information of the monitor terminal.

2. The monitoring system of a specific area according to Claim 1, wherein said monitor image switching means switches and transmits the image of said monitor terminal, which came close to the another monitor terminal by moving, to the monitor to which said another monitor terminal has transmitted the monitor image.

3. The monitoring system of a specific area according to any one of Claims 1 and 2, wherein said monitor terminal is made up of a moving unit that is provided with said image pickup unit and moves within said area to be monitored, and a fixed unit that is capable of non-contact communication with the moving units and provided with said communication means.

4. The monitoring system of a specific area according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, wherein said moving path has a feeding section for supplying electric power to said moving carts or said moving units.